- 11			
1	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General		
2	of the State of California LINDA K. SCHNEIDER, State Bar No. 101336		
3	Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice		
4	110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100 San Diego, CA 92101		
5	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266		
6 7	Telephone: (619) 645-3037 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9	BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
10			
11	STATE OF CAL		
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. AC-2003-16	
13	DAVID ALAN THATCHER	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND	
14	6843 La Valle Plateada Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067	DISCIPLINARY ÖRDER	
15	Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 29949		
16	Respondent.		
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18			
19	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND	AGREED by and between the parties in this	
20	proceeding that the following matters are true:		
21	<u>PARTIES</u>		
22	1. Carol Sigmann (Complainant) is the Executive Officer of the California		
23	Board of Accountancy. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is represented		
24	in this matter by Bill Lockyer, Attorney General of the State of California, by Linda K.		
25	Schneider, Deputy Attorney General.		
26	2. David Alan Thatcher (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by		
27	attorney, Alice L. Jensen, of Clifford Chance US LLP, whose address is, One Market, Steuart		
28	Tower Suite 400, San Francisco, CA 94105-1420.		

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CULPABILITY

- Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in 8. Accusation No. AC-2003-16. Respondent agrees that his Certified Public Accountant Certificate is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order.
- Respondent understands that by signing this stipulation he enables the 9. Board to issue an order revoking his Certified Public Accountant Certificate without further process.

OTHER MATTERS

- The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of 10. this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the California Board of Accountancy or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.
- Respondent fully understands and agrees that if he ever files an application 11. for licensure or a petition for reinstatement in the State of California, the Board shall treat it as a petition for reinstatement. Respondent must comply with all the laws, regulations and procedures for reinstatement of a revoked license in effect at the time the petition is filed, and all of the charges and allegations contained in Accusation No. AC-2003-16 shall be deemed to be true, correct, and admitted by Respondent when the Board determines whether to grant or deny the petition.

CONTINGENCY

This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the California Board of 12. Accountancy. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall

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ACCEPTANCE 1 I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and 2 have fully discussed it with my attorney, Alice L. Jensen. I understand the stipulation and the 3 effect it will have on my Certified Public Accountant Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated 4 Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be 5 bound by the Decision and Order of the California Board of Accountancy. 6 DATED: Z/28/03 7 8 9 10 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent David Alan Thatcher, CPA the 11 terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and 12 Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content. 13 DATED: 14 15 16 ALICE L. JENSEN Attorney for Respondent 17 ENDORSEMENT 18 The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully 19 submitted for consideration by the California Board of Accountancy of the Department of 20 Consumer Affairs. 21 DATED: 22 23 BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General 24 of the State of California 25 26 LINDA K. SCHNEIDER

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DOJ Docket Number: 03541110-SD2002AD0898

Deputy Attorney General

Attorneys for Complainant

ACCEPTANCE

2	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and		
3	have fully discussed it with my attorney, Alice L. Jensen. I understand the stipulation and the		
4	effect it will have on my Certified Public Accountant Certificate. I enter into this Stipulated		
5	Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be		
6	bound by the Decision and Order of the California Board of Accountancy.		
7	DATED:		
8			
9	DAVID ALAN THATCHER		
10	Respondent		
11	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent David Alan Thatcher, CPA the		
12	terms and conditions and other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and		
13	Disciplinary Order. I approve its form and content.		
14	dated: $3/3/03$		
15 16 17	ALICE L. JENSEN Attorney for Respondent		
18	<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>		
19°1	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully		
20	submitted for consideration by the California Board of Accountancy of the Department of		
21	Consumer Affairs.		
22	DATED: 3/4/03.		
23			
24	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General		
25	of the State of California		
26	1 DE Chreide		
27	LINDA K. SCHNEIDER Deputy Attorney General		
28	Attorneys for Complainant		

BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

Case No.AC-2003-16

DAVID ALAN THATCHER	DECISION AND ORDER			
CPA Certificate No. 29949				
Respondent.				
	J			
The attached Stipulated Settlement ar	nd Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by			
the California Board of Accountancy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in the				
above entitled matter.				
This Decision shall become effective on April 25, 2003.				
March 22, It is so ORDERED on	, 20 03 ,			
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For The CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY

DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS

Exhibit A
Accusation No. AC-2003-16

1	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General of the State of California		
2	LINDA K. SCHNEIDER, State Bar No. 101336		
3	Deputy Attorney General California Department of Justice		
4	110 West "A" Street, Suite 1100 San Diego, CA 92101		
5	P.O. Box 85266 San Diego, CA 92186-5266	•	
6			
7	Telephone: (619) 645-3037 Facsimile: (619) 645-2061		
8	Attorneys for Complainant		
9	BEFORE THE CALIFORNIA BOARD OF ACCOUNTANCY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
10			
11			
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. AC-2003-16	
13	DAVID ALAN THATCHER	ACCUSATION	
14	6843 La Valle Plateada Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067	ACCUSATION	
15	Certified Public Accountant Certificate No. CPA 29949	_	
16	Respondent.		
17			
18	Andrew Control of the Control of t		
19	Complainant alleges:		
20	<u>PARTIES</u>		
21	1. Carol Sigmann (Complainant) brings this Accusation solely in her official		
22	capacity as the Executive Officer of the California Board of Accountancy, Department of		
23	Consumer Affairs.		
24	2. On or about May 30, 1980, th	e California Board of Accountancy issued	
25	Certified Public Accountant Certificate Number CPA 29949 to David Alan Thatcher		
26	(Respondent). The Certified Public Accountant Certificate expired on January 31, 2001, and has		
27	not been renewed.		
28	///		

JURISDICTION

- 3. This Accusation is brought before the California Board of Accountancy (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs under the authority of the below mentioned statutes and regulations.¹
 - 4. Section 5100 of the Code states:

After notice and hearing the board may revoke, suspend or refuse to renew any permit or certificate granted under Article 4 (commencing with Section 5070) and Article 5 (commencing with Section 5080), or may censure the holder of that permit or certificate for unprofessional conduct which includes, but is not limited to, one or any combination of the following causes:

"(a) Conviction of any crime substantially related to the qualifications, functions and duties of a certified public accountant or a public accountant.

"..."

5. Section 5106 of the Code states:

"A plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere is deemed to be a conviction within the meaning of this article. The record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof. The board may order the certificate or permit suspended or revoked, or may decline to issue a certificate or permit, when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal or when an order granting probation is made, suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code allowing such person to withdraw his plea of guilty and to enter a plea of not guilty, or setting aside the verdict of guilty or dismissing the accusation, information or indictment."

^{1.} All statutory references are to the Business and Professions Code ("Code") unless otherwise indicated.

PRAYER

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the California Board of Accountancy issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Certified Public Accountant Certificate Number CPA 29949, issued to David Alan Thatcher;
- 2. Ordering David Alan Thatcher to pay the California Board of Accountancy the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 5107;

Executive Officer

State of California

Complainant

3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

California Board of Accountancy

Department of Consumer Affairs

DATED: December 31, 2002

03541110-SD2002AD0898

DAVID W. SHAPIRO (NYSBN 2054054) 1 United States Attorney 2 J. DOUGLAS WILSON (PA BAR 44915) Chief, Criminal Division 3 DAVID L. ANDERSON (CSBN 149604) I hereby certify that the an 4 instrument is a true and correct Assistant United States Attorney of the original on file in my o 5 450 Golden Gate Avenue, Box 36055 San Francisco, California 94102 6 Telephone: (415) 436-7153 7 Attorneys for Plaintiff UNITED STATES OF AMERICA 8 9 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT 10 NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA 11 SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION 12 13 No. CR 02-0028 WHA UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, 14 Plaintiff, 15 PLEA AGREEMENT 16 v. DAVID A. THATCHER. 17 Defendant. 18 19 I, DAVID A. THATCHER, and the United States Attorney's Office for the 20 Northern District of California (hereafter "the government") enter into this written plea 21 agreement (the "Agreement") pursuant to Rule 11(e)(1)(B) of the Federal Rules of 22 23 Criminal Procedure: The Defendant's Promises 24 I agree to plead guilty to count one of the captioned indictment charging me 1. 25 with conspiracy to commit securities fraud, in violation of 18 U.S.C. § 371. I agree that 26 the elements of the offense and the maximum penalties are as follows: (1) there was an 27 agreement between two or more persons to commit securities fraud as charged in the 28

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PLEA AGREEMENT

indictment; (2) the defendant became a member of the conspiracy knowing of its object and intending to help accomplish it; and (3) one of the members of the conspiracy performed at least one overt act for the purpose of carrying out the conspiracy.

a. Maximum prison sentence

5 years

b. Maximum fine

\$250,000

c. Maximum supervised release term

3 years

d. Mandatory special assessment

\$100

2. I agree that I am guilty of the offense to which I will plead guilty, and I agree that the following facts are true:

From January 2000 to February 2001, I was the President of Critical Path, Inc. During the third and fourth quarters of 2000, I participated in a criminal conspiracy at Critical Path. The object of this conspiracy was to report false revenues to meet Critical Path's predicted financial results. Other members of Critical Path's top management team participated in this conspiracy with me.

I. Third Quarter of 2000

At the end of the third quarter of 2000, Critical Path was short of its revenue goals for the quarter. To meet those revenue goals, Critical Path improperly reported revenue from transactions with Peregrine Systems, Inc., International Computers Limited (also known as ICL), and StarMedia Network, Inc.

A. Peregrine

Critical Path agreed to a software exchange with Peregrine. From Critical Path's perspective, this transaction was driven by the need to report revenue during the third quarter. At the end of September, 2000, Critical Path bought software from Peregrine, and Peregrine bought software from Critical Path. To avoid the appearance that the transaction was a software swap, Critical Path and Peregrine prepared separate contracts for each purchase, each paid the full amounts owed, and made payment to each other on different days.

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ICL B.

revenue from this transaction.

ICL claimed that it was owed \$8.7 million by PeerLogic, Inc. When Critical Path acquired PeerLogic during the third quarter of 2000, Critical Path assumed this obligation. ICL proposed that Critical Path pay \$6 million to extinguish the claim. Instead, Critical Path paid ICL the full \$8.7 million, and ICL paid back \$2.7 million to Critical Path, ostensibly as a software-licensing fee. To avoid the appearance that the settlement agreement and the software-licensing agreement were related, the agreements were prepared as separate documents, which did not refer to each other.

I participated in the negotiations with Peregrine for this software swap. I spoke

with the CEO of Peregrine about the software swap. I also helped to set the value of the

transaction. By structuring the software swap as two independent transactions, I realized

that I and others working on the deal were consciously avoiding disclosure of the true

others in senior management, participated in an effort to mislead auditors and others

nature of the transaction. By concealing the true nature of the transaction, I, along with

about the facts which I knew would be relied on in deciding the propriety of recognizing

Because the ICL transaction was negotiated at the very end of the third quarter, ICL did not actually receive the software until after the third quarter ended. Nonetheless, Critical Path recognized the revenue from the software-licensing agreement during the third quarter.

Although I did not proposed or structure the ICL transaction, I was aware that the transaction was structured with the intent of misleading auditors and others about facts which I knew would be relied on in deciding the propriety of recognizing \$2.7 million in software-licensing revenue from this transaction.

StarMedia C.

On September 30, 2000, Critical Path entered into a software-licensing agreement with StarMedia. At the same time, Critical Path executed a side letter amending the agreement and extending StarMedia's payment terms. I signed the side letter for Critical

Path. Although the existence of the side letter was known by others within the Company, I did not provide the side letter to Critical Path's accounting or legal department. I believed that fully disclosing StarMedia's extension of payment terms to Critical Path's auditors might have prevented Critical Path from recognizing third-quarter revenue for this transaction. I knew that by executing the side letter and then not forwarding it to Critical Path's accounting department, I was participating in an effort to mislead Critical Path's auditors and others about facts which I knew would be relied on in reviewing Critical Path's revenue-recognition decisions for the third quarter of 2000.

D. Critical Path's Third-Quarter Results and Fourth-Quarter Goals

Improperly recognizing revenue for the Peregrine, ICL and StarMedia transactions allowed Critical Path to exceed its financial goals for the third quarter of 2000. With my knowledge and approval, the Company falsely represented its third-quarter revenues in a press release stated October 19, 2000, and a Form 10-Q filed with the SEC on November 14, 2000. The Company set higher financial goals for the fourth quarter of 2000.

II. Fourth Quarter of 2000

As the fourth quarter of 2000 drew to a close, Critical Path was short of its quarterly financial goals. In an attempt to meet those financial goals, Critical Path again improperly reported revenues that had not, in fact, been earned.

A. Bestseats

Critical Path executed a software-licensing agreement with Bestseats, Inc. I was aware of this agreement and did not believe in good faith that Bestseats could pay for it. In mid-January, 2001, as Critical Path's auditors were reviewing Bestseats' ability to pay, the CEO of Bestseats sent Critical Path an email describing Bestseats' capitalization. I altered the email to make it appear that Bestseats had more money than the email described, and forwarded the email to others at Critical Path in an effort to mislead them so that revenue would be recognized for this transaction.

B. Storerunner

Critical Path executed a software-licensing agreement with Storerunner Network, Inc. I was aware of this agreement and did not believe in good faith that Storerunner would pay for it. Because I did not have a good-faith belief that Storerunner would pay for the agreement, I realized that revenue from the transaction should not have been recognized.

C. ENA

Critical Path executed a software-licensing agreement with Educational Networks of America, a company also known as ENA. Although ENA expressed a legitimate interest in purchasing Critical Path software, ENA was reluctant to enter into an agreement with Critical Path during the fourth quarter of 2000 because it was concerned about the availability of funding to pay for the transaction.

Critical Path did eventually execute an agreement with ENA, but it was not executed until after the fourth quarter ended. To overcome ENA's concern about its own funding, Critical Path issued a side letter to ENA that allowed ENA an out if it did not receive its funding.

I realized that Critical Path could not properly recognize revenue for the ENA agreement during the fourth quarter of 2000. The transaction was not completed during that quarter, and revenue could not be recognized anyway, so long as the side letter was outstanding.

- 3. I agree to give up all rights that I would have if I chose to proceed to trial, including the rights to a jury trial with the assistance of an attorney; to confront and cross-examine government witnesses; to remain silent or testify; to move to suppress evidence or raise any other Fourth or Fifth Amendment claims; to any further discovery from the government, as may be limited by <u>United States v. Ruiz</u>, 241 F.3d 1157 (9th Cir. 2001); and to pursue any affirmative defenses and present evidence.
- 4. I agree to give up my right to appeal my conviction, the judgment, and orders of the Court. I also agree to waive any right I may have to appeal my sentence.

- 5. I agree not to file any collateral attack on my conviction or sentence, including a petition under 28 U.S.C. § 2255, at any time in the future after I am sentenced, except for a claim that my constitutional right to the effective assistance of counsel was violated.
- 6. I agree not to ask the Court to withdraw my guilty plea at any time after it is entered.
- 7. In return for the government's promises set out below, I agree to pay restitution for all the losses caused by all the schemes or offenses with which I was charged in this case, and I agree that the amount of restitution will not be limited to the loss attributable to the count(s) to which I am pleading guilty, pursuant to 18 U.S.C. § 3663(a)(3). I agree that I will make a good faith effort to pay any fine, forfeiture or restitution I am ordered to pay. Before or after sentencing, I will, upon request of the Court, the government, or the U.S. Probation Office, provide accurate and complete financial information, submit sworn statements and give depositions under oath concerning my assets and my ability to pay, surrender assets I obtained as a result of my crimes, and release funds and property under my control in order to pay any fine, forfeiture, or restitution. I agree to pay the special assessment at the time of sentencing.
- 8. I agree to cooperate with the U.S. Attorney's Office before and after I am sentenced. My cooperation will include, but will not be limited to, the following:
 - a. I will respond truthfully and completely to any and all questions put to me, whether in interviews, before a grand jury or at any trial or other proceeding;
 - b. I will provide all documents and other material asked for by the government;
 - c. I will testify truthfully at any grand jury, court or other proceeding as requested by the government;
 - d. I will surrender any and all assets acquired or obtained directly or indirectly as a result of my illegal conduct;
 - e. I will request continuances of my sentencing date, as necessary, until my cooperation is completed;

- f. I will tell the government about any contacts I may have with any co-defendants or subjects of investigation, or their attorneys or individuals employed by their attorneys;
- g. I will not reveal my cooperation, or any information related to it, to anyone without prior consent of the government.
- 9. I agree that the government's decision whether to file a motion pursuant to U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1, as described in the government promises section below, is based on its sole and exclusive decision of whether I have provided substantial assistance and that decision will be binding on me. I understand that the government's decision whether to file such a motion, or the extent of the departure recommended by any motion, will not depend on whether convictions are obtained in any case. I also understand that the Court will not be bound by any recommendation made by the government.
- imposed or before I surrender to serve my sentence; violate the terms of my pretrial release (if any); intentionally provide false information or testimony to the Court, the Probation Office, Pretrial Services, or the government; or fail to comply with any of the other promises I have made in this Agreement. I agree that, if I fail to comply with any promises I have made in this Agreement, then the government will be released from all of its promises, but I will not be released from my guilty plea.
- Agreement, then (a) I agree that any statements I made to any law enforcement or other government agency or in Court, whether or not made pursuant to the cooperation provisions of this Agreement, may be used in any way; (b) I waive any and all claims under the United States Constitution, Rule 11(e)(6) of the Federal Rules of Criminal Procedure, Rule 410 of the Federal Rules of Evidence, or any other federal statute or rule, to suppress or restrict the use of my statements, or any leads derived from those statements; and (c) I waive any defense to any prosecution that it is barred by a statute of limitations, if the limitations period has run between the date of this Agreement and the date I am indicted.

- 12. I agree that this Agreement contains all of the promises and agreements between the government and me, and I will not claim otherwise in the future.
- 13. I agree that this Agreement binds the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Northern District of California only, and does not bind any other federal, state, or local agency.

The Government's Promises

- 14. The government agrees to move to dismiss any open charges pending against the defendant in the captioned indictment at the time of sentencing.
- 15. The government agrees not to file or seek any additional charges against the defendant that could be filed as a result of the investigation that led to the pending indictment.
- 16. The government agrees not to use any statements made by the defendant pursuant to this Agreement against him, unless the defendant fails to comply with any promises in this agreement. The government may, however, tell the Court and the U.S. Probation Department about the full extent of the defendant's criminal activities in connection with the calculation of the Sentencing Guidelines.
- 17. If, in its sole and exclusive judgment, the government decides that the defendant has cooperated fully and truthfully, provided substantial assistance to law enforcement authorities within the meaning of U.S.S.G. § 5K1.1, and otherwise complied fully with this Agreement, it will file with the Court a motion under § 5K1.1 and/or 18 U.S.C. § 3553 that explains the nature and extent of the defendant's cooperation and recommends a downward departure.
- 18. Based on the information now known to it, the government will not oppose a downward adjustment of three levels for acceptance of responsibility under U.S.S.G. § 3E1.1.

The Defendant's Affirmations

19. I confirm that I have had adequate time to discuss this case, the evidence, and this Agreement with my attorney, and that he has provided me with all the legal

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